

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 019299
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 /028 R

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EUR:GSVEST
C:RHOPPER
NSC:GTREVERTON
S/S-O:TGMARTIN
O:TGMARTIN

-----126390 250022Z /75

O 242322Z JAN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 019299

FOR AMBASSADOR GOLDBERG FROM THE DEPUTY SECRETARY AND VEST

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, OCON

SUBJECT: PLAN TO PUT FORWARD US VERSION OF WESTERN
SYNTHESIS

REF: BELGRADE 542

1. WE HAVE GIVEN CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO YOUR PROPOSAL
TO TABLE A US VERSION OF THE WESTERN SYNTHESIS PAPER AT
THE JANUARY 27 SESSION OF THE BELGRADE MEETING. YOU ARE
CLOSEST TO THE ACTION AND YOUR TACTICAL JUDGEMENT REMAINS
A VITAL FACTOR IN OUR ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION. WE CAN
SEE THE ADVANTAGES OF CREATING A MIDDLE GROUND UPON WHICH
THE NEUTRAL/NON-ALIGNED PARTICIPANTS CAN BUILD A
COMPROMISE AND UNDERSTAND THAT THE US DELEGATION IS IN A
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PAGE 02 STATE 019299

UNIQUE POSITION TO TAKE AN INITIATIVE IN THIS DIRECTION.
IF, AFTER YOUR CONSULTATIONS WITH ALLIED AND NNA REPRE-
SENTATIVES YOU CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT INTRODUCTION OF THE
US-VERSION SYNTHESIS PAPER WILL SERVE THIS PURPOSE, YOU
HAVE OUR APPROVAL TO PROCEED AS OUTLINED IN BELGRADE 542.
YOU MAY FIND THAT A US ONLY SPONSORSHIP IS TACTICALLY
PREFERABLE AT THIS STAGE TO FULL ALLIED COSPONSORSHIP,

I.E., THEIR UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION IS MUCH MORE IMPORTANT THAN THEIR COSPONSORSHIP.

2. ALLIED HESITATION ABOUT YOUR INITIATIVE DOES, HOWEVER, GIVE US CONCERN. AS DISCUSSED IN WASHINGTON EARLIER THIS MONTH, IT CONTINUES TO BE IMPORTANT NOT TO GIVE THE ALLIES CAUSE TO BELIEVE THAT WE HAVE IN ANY WAY SHORT CIRCUITED EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE THE BEST POSSIBLE FINAL DOCUMENT. I ASSUME FROM YOUR MESSAGE THAT SOME ALLIED REPRESENTATIVES BELIEVE IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO CONTINUE WITH THE BUILDING BLOCK APPROACH BASED ON THE WESTERN "SKELETON" PAPER RATHER THAN INTRODUCE A NEW DRAFT. IN FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUE, I HOPE YOU WILL MAKE CLEAR THAT INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW DRAFT IS A TACTICAL DEVICE WHICH IN NO WAY ALTERS OUR SUPPORT AND IN FACT ADVANCES EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A SATISFACTORY RESULT IN THE DRAFTING GROUPS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE019299
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JKORNBLUM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780036-0516
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780127/aaaaawux.tel
Line Count: 81
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1edba1e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BELGRADE 542
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3720994
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PLAN TO PUT FORWARD US VERSION OF WESTERN SYNTHESIS
TAGS: OCON, CSCE
To: BELGRADE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1edba1e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014